

ABSTRACT

Disclosed is a stent having improved characteristics of its structural design and improved radiopacity characteristics. Specifically, the present invention is a stent that has circumferential sets of strut members at the ends of the stent and central sets of strut members that are longitudinally placed between the end sets of strut members. Optimal radiopacity is achieved when the end sets of strut members are more radiopaque as compared to the radiopacity of the central sets of strut members. Also disclosed is the concept of adjusting the strut width of the curved sections of the end and central sets of strut members so that equal strain in all curved sections is achieved as the stent is expanded even though the diagonals sections of the end sets of strut members are shorter than the diagonal sections of the central sets of strut members.